GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6233
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2000
FOREIGN TRADE
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the list of products and the names of countries with which the foreign trade of India has increased during the last two years;

(b) the percentage of increase in various products during the above period;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any new schemes to improve the export/import of such products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) &(b) The list of principal commodities indicating positive growth in exports and imports in dollar terms during April-December 1999-2000 and their performance during the year 1998-99 as per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics provisional data is as under:

Export growth (%)

Items	1998-99	1999-2000 (April-Dec)
Chemical products	(-)8.1	10.6
Engineering goods	(-)14.2	22.3
Electronic hardware	(-)34.3	19.7
Marine products	(-)14.0	7.8
Gems & jewellery	10.4	22.1
Textiles	(-)1.1	8.9
Handicraft	19.0	7.8
Carpets	(-)2.0	21.1

Import growth rate (%)

Items	1998-99	1999-2000 (April-Dec)
Fertilizers	(-)3.9	46.0
Petroleum crude & products	(-)21.2	58.3
Pearls & Precious & Semi-precious stones	12.6	44.1
Organic & Inorganic Chemicals	-8.1	10.8
Artificial resins etc.	-4.5	9.1
Electronic goods	4.1	19.7

The data are provisional and the growth rates indicated are over the corresponding period of the previous year . Major trading partners with whom our exports have shown positive growth during April-December, 1999-2000 are Belgium, Denmark, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, U.K., Switzerland, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Australia, China PR, Hong Kong Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Israel, Nigeria, Canada, USA, Russia etc. and those from whom our imports have shown positive growth are Netherlands, China P.R., Hongkong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Israel, Nigeria, South Africa, USA, Brazil and Russia.

(c)&(d) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions. Imports are made by the trade and industry according to the needs of the economy.